

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H. RES. 568
OFFERED BY MR. FEENEY

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the Declaration of Independence announced that one of the chief causes of the American Revolution was that King George had “combined to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution and unacknowledged by our laws”;

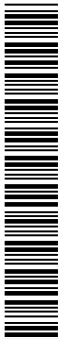
Whereas the Supreme Court has recently relied on the judgments, laws, or pronouncements of foreign institutions to support its interpretations of the laws of the United States, most recently in *Lawrence v. Texas*, 123 S.Ct. 2472, 2474 (2003);

Whereas the Supreme Court has stated previously in *Printz v. United States*, 521 U.S. 898, 921 n.11 (1997), that “We think such comparative analysis inappropriate to the task of interpreting a constitution . . .”;

Whereas Americans’ ability to live their lives within clear legal boundaries is the foundation of the rule of law, and essential to freedom;

Whereas it is the appropriate judicial role to faithfully interpret the expression of the popular will through the Constitution and laws enacted by duly elected representatives of the American people and our system of checks and balances;

Whereas Americans should not have to look for guidance on how to live their lives from the often contradictory deci-



sions of any of hundreds of other foreign organizations;
and

Whereas inappropriate judicial reliance on foreign judgments,
laws, or pronouncements threatens the sovereignty of the
United States, the separation of powers and the Presi-
dent's and the Senate's treaty-making authority: Now,
therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolved clause and insert the fol-
lowing:

1 That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that
2 judicial interpretations regarding the meaning of the Con-
3 stitution of the United States should not be based in whole
4 or in part on judgments, laws, or pronouncements of for-
5 eign institutions unless such foreign judgments, laws, or
6 pronouncements inform an understanding of the original
7 meaning of the Constitution of the United States.

Amend the title so as to read: "Resolution express-
ing the sense of the House of Representatives that judi-
cial determinations regarding the meaning of the Con-
stitution of the United States should not be based on
judgments, laws, or pronouncements of foreign institu-
tions unless such foreign judgments, laws, or pronounce-
ments inform an understanding of the original meaning
of the Constitution of the United States."

